



Certification and Higher Education Committee

Maine State Board of Education

Minutes of the February 24, 2016 Meeting

The Certification and Higher Education Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, February 24, 2016, at the Department of Education in Augusta. The following were present: Chair Nichi Farnham (by phone); and Jana Lapoint (Board Members). Robert Hasson, Certification Coordinator; Angel Loreda, Higher Education Specialist; and Mary Becker, State Board Secretary Associate.

Guest: Janet Gallagher, Certification Specialist; and Courtney Baehr (by phone), Certification Specialist (Department of Education)

Nichi Farnham called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

The February 3, 2016 meeting minutes were distributed and will be approved at the March 30, 2016 meeting.

Higher Education Update (Angel Loreda):

1. Reviews (Chapter 149 and Chapter 170)

- Lesley University Review to approve a renewal application to offer academic credit programs in Maine was held on February 12, 2016. Nichi Farnham was the Board Observer for this review. The review team's report of findings will go to the full Board on March 9 and the Board will vote to approve the report at the April 13, 2016 meeting.
- Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) Review to approve its current authorization to offer academic credit programs in Maine was held on January 15, 2016. Jana Lapoint was the Board Observer for this review. The Board voted to accept the team report of findings on February 10 and will consider the findings at the March 9, 2016 meeting.

2. Reviews (Chapter 114)

- Educator Preparation Program Approvals – University of Maine at Presque Isle Team Review is scheduled for October 2016. Jana Lapoint will be the Board Observer for this review.
- Angel distributed a Summary of Educator Preparation Program Approval Dates

Certification Update: (Robert Hasson)

- Bob undated the Committee on the new credentialing computer system – HUPP Technologies of Springfield, Illinois. Courtney Baehr and Janet Gallagher have been attending weekly meetings.
- Bob, along with Jaci Holmes and Suzan Beaudoin are reviewing statute and rule.
- Courtney Baehr (by phone) and Janet Gallagher, Certification Specialists, joined the meeting. Courtney has been with the DOE since 2008 and Janet since 2010. Both Janet and Courtney shared with the Committee what they are seeing as improvements and what their challenges are in the Certification Office.
- The conference call meeting with the New Mexico Department of Education has not yet occurred. Bob will follow-up to see when this is scheduled to take place.

Rule Updates:

- Chapter 13: Qualifying Examinations for Teachers, Educational Specialists and Administrators (*Robert Hasson*)
 - Chapter 13 was amended in 2015.
- Chapter 114: Purpose, Standards and Procedures for the Review and Approval of Preparation Programs for Education Personnel (*Angel Loreda*)
 - Chapter 114 was amended in 2012.
- Chapter 149: Procedures for Obtaining Authorization for Institutions of Higher Education to Offer Degree Courses/Programs in the State of Maine (*Angel Loreda*)
 - Chapter 149 was amended in November 2008.
- Chapter 170: Standards for Evaluating Request for Degree-Granting Authorizations and for Out-of-State Post-Secondary Institutions Seeking to Offer Academic Credit Courses/Programs in Maine (*Angel Loreda*)
 - Chapter 170 was amended in November of 2008.
- Chapter 115: Certification, Authorization and Approval of Education Personnel (*Robert Hasson*)
 - Chapter 115, Part I was amended in May of 2014
 - Chapter 115, Part II was amended in June of 2004
- Chapter 118: Purposes, Standards and Procedures for Educational Personnel Support Systems
 - Chapter 118 was amended in 2007.
 - The training materials need to be updated and mentors need training.

Handouts:

- Broken Discipline Tracking Systems Let Teachers Flee Troubled Past (*Bob Hasson*)
- Summary - Higher Education Teacher Preparation Programs (*Angel Loreda*)

The next Certification Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at 9:30 AM. The meeting will be held in room 538 of the Cross State Office Building.

Adjournment:

The Certification Committee meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.